

# Northern Bukovina Parish Registers

## Historical Context

Bukovina is a land of Romanian and Ukrainian heritage but of Austrian and Soviet administration. Bukovina was part of the Austrian Empire 1775-1918. It was a district in Galicia until 1849 when it became a separate Austrian Crownland. It was absorbed by Romania between the world wars. The Northern portion was incorporated into Ukraine afterwards.

Historically the population consisted of Moldovans (Romanians) and Ukrainians (Ruthenians and Hutzuls). During the 19th century the Austria encouraged the influx of many immigrants such as Germans, Poles, Jews, Hungarians and additional Ruthenians. Despite this influx, Romanians continued to be the largest ethnic group until 1880, when Ukrainians (Ruthenians) outnumbered the Romanians 5:4.

In 1907, the population, there were 730,195 inhabitants; 110,483 Catholic, 500,262 Orthodox, 96,150 Jews, and 23,300 other religions. 159,486 spoke German; 297,798 Ukrainian, 229,018 Romanian; 37,202 other languages. There were 142,933 houses.

In 1940-1941, tens of thousands of Romanian families from northern Bukovina were deported to Siberia. Additionally, hundreds of Romanian peasants were killed as they attempted escape to Romania away from the Soviet authorities. The German population was repatriated to Germany. The Jewish community was destroyed in death camps.

## Record Context

The parish registers and transcripts are being microfilmed in the Central Historical Archive of Chernivitz. The filming began in 2001. The records consist primarily of transcripts, though some originals are interfiled. There is not much difference between the two. You can tell the difference because in transcripts each year begins on a new page and in the originals the transition between years occurs on the same page. The same information is found in both through it is assumed that copy errors were made. Because of the mix the inclusive dates of some volumes overlap and both the transcript and original entry are available.

It would appear that the records were gathered into the civil registration system though it is not clear when. They were transferred to the archive from the civil registration office in groups of records. The first transfer occurred in 1983. The rule of thumb is that volumes are transferred when 75 years has passed since the last year in a volume. However, it would appear that this rule has been relaxed because records are being acquired through 1945. It is assumed that Soviet civil registration replaced Austrian/Romanian church registration around that year.

The records begin primarily in 1840 though for some go back to 1801. They are of uniform format, initially dictated by the Austrian authorities. Early records are in Romanian and Old Cyrillic script. Later records are in Latin script.

Аа	Бб	Вв	Гг	Дд	Ее	Жж
a	b	v	g	d	e, je	zh
Ѕѕ/Зз	Зз/Зз	Ии	Ии	Кк	Лл	
dz	z	i	i	k	l	
Мм	Нн	Оо/Оо	Пп	Рр	Сс	
m	n	o	p	r	s	
Тт	Уу/Уу/Уу	Фф	Хх	Цц	Щщ	
t	u	f	h, kh	o		
Шш	Щщ	Чч/Чч	Шш	Ъъ		
shch, sht	ts	ch	sh	*		
Ыы/Ыы	Ьь	Ѣѣ	Юю	Ѧѧ		
y	*	[ε]	ju	ja		
Јј	Љљ	Њњ	Ћћ	Ќќ	Ѓѓ	
je	e	e	je	jø	ks	
ѢѢ	ѦѦ	ѦѦ				
ps	f	i, v				

\* - letters for super-short vowels [u] and [i] which later were lost

An analysis of a record sample listed below shows the following transitions in script. The inclusive dates refer to a transition period, as the records in one parish transitioned to the new script at different point than the records of another parish. The main transition occurred around 1875 when registration when Bukovina came under Romanian influence within the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

1840	Entries in Old Cyrillic script
1874-1885	Entries in Latin script
1840	Headings in German Gothic and Old Cyrillic script
1874-1883	Headings in German Gothic and Romanian script
1883-1888	German headings in Latin script
1890-1892	Headings in Romanian and Russian scripts

These records are in the process of being cataloged. All that has been filmed has not yet been made available. Cataloging identifies the Austrian, Romanian, and Ukrainian variations of the jurisdiction and place name. The records in Chernivitz include those from Khotin (Bessarabia) and Hertsa (Romania). These places were not part of northern Bukovina but were added to the state of Chernivitz after World War II. The records from these areas have different formats and scripts.

## Record Content

Entries are entered across two pages. The format remained consistent throughout the period with the addition of a single column in the 1880s providing form the sequentially number of the event. The specific information found in each entry is noted below:

### Birth

Left-hand page: House number / Year, month, and day of birth and baptism / Name of child / Religion / Gender / Marital status

Right-hand page: Name and social status or occupation of the father (often includes residence) / Name of the mother / Name, social status, and residence of godparents / Name and residence of the midwife / Signature of the priest who performed the baptism

G e b u r t s - K O N D I K A											
Haus- Nr.	Periode der Geburten В р ѣ м я Н а ш е р и і			N a m e n des K i n d e s  Н І М Е Л Е П Р І М Е Л І	Religion А н г л . B і- с е р і я і		Ge- s c h l e c h t П л а т ь		Ehe- l i c h D i n d r a n t ' s k a n s n i e U n e h e l i c h A c o p t ' d e k a n s n i e		
	Jahr А н г л . Kasil	Monat und Tag der Geburt  Л ю б а м і з і с о а А к а р е с а з н а з a t			Orientalisch P a s c h i m a l	Occidentalisch A n g e l i k	Männlich B a r b a t s k a	Weiblich M e t a s k a			
		Monat und Tag der Taufe  Л ю б а м і з і s o a А к а р е с а з n o t e z a t									
Урмствоарелл фронталелл свнт авнелла кланула на ност апостол нава? на урмство концентразіе днелл до свнт апостол											
307	1860	Ноемврие	3.	Евфросина	1	—	—	1	вн у-мство		
		Ноемврие	4.	Анна Екатерина	1	—	—	1			
456	860	Ноемврие	6.	Мина.	1	—	—	1			
53	860	Ноемврие	12.	Мина.	1	—	—	1			

## Death

Left hand page: House number / Year, month, and day of death and burial / Name and residence of deceased / Social status or occupation

Right-hand page: Religion / Gender / Cause of death / Signature of the priest conducting the burial

Numărul casei	Jahr Anul	Tag des Absterbens Luna și ziua rapăusării	Tag der Beerdigung Luna și ziua înmormîntării	Numele de botez și de familie a rapăusatului și domiciliul lui	Stare sau meserie
53	879	3. Decembrie	5. Decembrie	Tetiana Cosmini <sup>o</sup> nașc. hoi <sup>ni</sup> sau Dumare din Banița mold.	sgrau
271	879	4. Decembrie	5. Decembrie	Jacopiu Vasile Rîș. ca din Banița mold.	sgrau

## Marriage

Left-hand page: House number / Year, month, and day of banns / Year month and day of marriage / Name and residence of groom / Social status or occupation / Religion / Age / Marital status

Right-hand page: Name and residence of bride / Social status or occupation / Religion / Age / Marital status / Names and residences of the witnesses / Social status / Signature of the priest

Post-Nr. Numărul curinte	Haus-Nr. Numărul casei	der Aufkündigung Vestirilor			der Trauung Cununii		Tauf- und Zuname, dann Stand oder Gewerbe und Wohnort	Religion			Alter	Estate	Ledig	Holteiu	Witwer	Veduvoin
		Monat und Tag der geschenehen Auf- kündigung Luna și ziua, în care s'au vestitu			Monat und Tag der Trauung Luna și ziua, în care s'au cununatu			Orientalisch Orientală	Occidentalisch Occidentală							
		1.	2.	3.	Jahr  Anul											
1.	132  313	8. 19.	14. 26.	21. Jan. 2. febr.	25. Janaro 6. febraro	1890	Ioan și alți Teod și Rîș a foar și Anararar născ. Jboial, gîșar și Banița	1	"	25	1	"				
S'au cununat cu dispensa Arhiepiscopiei de impedimentul consanginității																
2.	340  573	14. 26.	21. Jan. 2. febr.	25. Jan. 7. febr.	1. 13.	1890	Arca alți Lîșgar Dîșar și Lîșar născ. Lîșgar și gîșar și Banița	1	"	26	1	"				